

STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC) ON THE DEATH OF
AMBASSADOR PEURIFOY, AUGUST 12, 1955

I was both shocked and grieved to learn today of the untimely death of one of America's greatest diplomats and one of South Carolina's most distinguished sons, Ambassador Jack Peurifoy. He is truly one of the great South Carolinians who has made an historical contribution to the cause of freedom. His successes in quelling Communist conspiracies both abroad and in the western hemisphere will go down in history as milestones in American diplomatic achievements.

As Ambassador to Thailand, he was once again facing a tough diplomatic assignment in coping with another Communist conspiracy that could best be handled by Ambassador Peurifoy's courage and his down-to-earth diplomacy. I had looked forward to even greater service from him on higher levels in our Government. His loss will be sorely felt by our country in this time when expert diplomacy is so vital to the welfare of America and freedom-loving peoples everywhere.